KATIVIK

Quarterly Update

Keeping Nunavimmiut up to date on the work of the Kativik Regional Government

Women's Employment in the Mining Sector

(Left to right) Deb Niviaxie (Kativik Regional Government), Jose Kenaujuak (Raglan), and Cynthia Cooke (Inuvik Canadian Rangers) are leading the project along with Janice Gray to promote the employment of women in the mining sector.

With two operating mines, the mining sector is now the largest employer in Nunavik. Inuit however represent only 15% of the mining-sector workforce, and less than half of Inuit workers are women. An action plan is being developed by the Kautuapiklaat Strategy Table for employment and training in the mining sector to increase the participation of Inuit women. The draft action plan proposes, among other actions, to improve Inuit recruitment activities in the communities and in particular for women, to deliver support to women workers adapting to the working and living conditions at mine sites, and to address the importance of family and children in their lives.

Kautuapiklaat is composed of the KRG, the Makivik Corporation, the Kativik School Board, the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association and the Nunavik Mineral Exploration Fund, plus the region's two active mining companies. The draft action plan is being prepared with special funding received from Status of Women Canada. The Nunavik Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik has been involved in the consultations.

Age-Friendly Communities

To improve the living conditions of elders and address issues such as intergenerational relations, the Nunavik Elders' Committee and the KRG are continuing to assist the northern villages to implement the age-friendly communities process. A very successful meeting was organized in early September with regional stakeholders in the fields of housing, community infrastructure, Inuktitut broadcasting, healthy food, transportation and mobility.

During the same week, the Northern Village of Kuujjuaq held its first age-friendly community meeting. So far this year, meetings have been organized with several northern villages and a total of 56 community projects have been approved.

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Nunavik Elders' Committee

Hunter Support Evaluation

The objectives of the Inuit Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Support Program have always been to favour wildlife harvesting activities as a way of life and ensure a supply of country food in the communities. These objectives however are placing increasing pressures on the northern villages which are responsible for local hunter support programs. Difficulties concern a lack of recognition for wildlife harvesters in the wage economy, increasingly expensive equipment, as well as changing harvesting patterns and pressures on wildlife.

Harvesting remains vital in every community. Focus will be placed by the KRG over the coming months on developing a regional strategy that continues to promote community decision-making. The communities and other Inuit and First Nations groups were consulted as part of the initial evaluation. Funding for the Support Program is paid by the Quebec government pursuant to Section 29 of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement*.

Summer in Nunavik's Parks

Parcs Nunavik Parks

The KRG Parks Section and Youth Employment Services Nunavik organized three expeditions this summer for youth to Ivujivik and Tursujuq national parks. Close to 20 youth participated in various activities, such trail marking, the clean-up of a former outfitting camp, entomology inventory work and introductory archaeological digs.

Right: Tursujuq park expedition.

Parnasimautilirijiit Activities

Parnasimautilirijiit and staff with Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard in August. The presentation to Quebec was a unique opportunity to educate the government about Nunavik realities.

Work to address the fundamental issues set out in the 2014 *Parnasimautilik Consultation Report* and the 2010 *Plan Nunavik* are underway. Parnasimautilirijiit held two conference calls in June and July, and a two-day meeting in early August. A three-hour overview was also presented to the Ministerial Committee of the Plan Nord in Quebec City on August 19 and priorities were discussed.

Several fundamental issues are targeted for review in the coming months, including in the sectors of Lands, Education, Culture and Language, Youth and Justice. Parnasimautilirijiit was created to develop solutions to common challenges at the regional and community levels. It comprises the leaders of the region's seven main organizations, namely the Makivik Corporation, the KRG, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, the Kativik School Board, the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association, the Avataq Cultural Institute and the new Nunavik Youth Forum.

Plan for Integrated Development

The KRG has completed a regional plan for the integrated development of Nunavik's natural resource and land potentials. The plan sets strategic orientations covering the environment, the economy and the social sector, and will serve as another tool for promoting sustainable and equitable development. Funding to implement identified projects will be limited in 2015 and 2016 to eco-tourism and protected area initiatives. The final stages of this project involved adapting the plan's strategic orientations to the 2014 *Parnasimautik Consultation Report* and completing consultations with the Makivik Corporation and the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association.

Mine Project EIS – Quest

The KRG recently submitted a letter to the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission recommending issues that should be included in the directive for the environmental impact study to be prepared by Quest Rare Minerals Ltd. on the proposed rare earth mining project near Kangiqsualujjuaq. The letter focuses on the socio-psychological effects of mining projects, traditional knowledge collection, analysis of the potential impacts of mine activities on wildlife and the environment, as well as an impact and benefit agreement covering socio-economic aspects and monitoring.

Permafrost Thaw Impacts

The Ministère des Transports du Québec (transportation) is studying the impacts of permafrost thaw on infrastructure at the 13 community airports it owns in Nunavik. Three main causes of thawing under airport facilities and access roads have been identified as global warming, poor water drainage and excessive snow accumulation. Adapted design criteria and improved maintenance to stop permafrost thawing will continue to be implemented in cooperation with the KRG and the northern villages.

Airport HWOS Installation

Human Weather Observation Systems (HWOS) are being installed at 10 community airports this summer and fall by the Ministère des Transports du Québec (transportation), while related training for airport observer-communicators is being undertaken by the KRG Transportation Department. HWOS equipment will improve the quality of data for flights and allow observer-communicators to record and report weather observations more efficiently. KRG observer-communicators provide weather reporting at 12 of the region's 14 community airports. NAV CANADA operates the local flight service stations in Kuujjuaq and Kuujjuarapik.

Airport Security Issues

This summer in July, security inspections were completed by Transport Canada at the airports in Kuujjuaq and Kuujjuarapik. The inspections identified a number of non-compliance issues necessitating immediate action regarding fence repairs, access procedures and site security. The KRG Transportation Department has been working with staff and regional airlines to make sure all the issues are addressed with no impact on air services to Montreal.

Even while airport activities have not changed significantly in recent years, many obligations have been transferred to the KRG in its role as an airport operator, including at the Kuujjuaq and Kuujjuarapik airports. These obligations relate specifically to safety and environmental management systems. Transport Canada owns the airport in Kuujjuaq and the Ministère des Transports du Québec (transportation, MTQ) owns the airports in the region's 13 other communities.

The KRG has been responsible for operating community airports since 1996 in accordance with all applicable federal and provincial laws and regulations. This responsibility requires a high degree of coordination with Transport Canada, the MTQ and NAV CANADA.

Local Parnasimautik Meetings

Since 2013, Kangiqsualujjuaq has organized several community meetings with local associations, committees, groups and youth. Established on the Parnasimautik model, the meetings are helping residents to explore their needs and work towards positive change. Some of the accomplishments of these meetings include improved local coordination of beluga hunting, the development of the Qarmaapik family house, improved healing and health awareness, and growing support for a local men's association.

At their Parnasimautik meetings, Kangiqsualujjuamiut share information on complex issues and strive to resolve community problems themselves, without depending only on regional organizations or governments. Each local association, committee and group is expected to take action according to its respective roles and responsibilities.

The next local Parnasimautik meeting in Kangiqsualujjuaq is planned for the week of October 19. Kangiqsujuaq, for its part, is planning to hold its local community meeting the same week with special focus on the Raglan Agreement, which came into effect 20 years ago.

(Right to left) Kangiqsualujjuaq mayor Hilda Snowball, Bobby Baron, Nancy Elek and McCombie Annanack made a presentation to the September sitting of the KRG Council on regular local Parnasimautik meetings in their community.

Qanuilirpitaa Health Survey

At its September sitting, the KRG Council approved a $1 million contribution over three years to the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) for the 2017 Qanuilirpitaa Health Survey. The health survey will improve health and social service planning by documenting the general health of residents as well as certain problems, such as lack of housing, food insecurity and the social impacts of development. The overall budget for the survey is close to $8 million. The NRBHSS conducted previous health surveys in 1992 and 2004.

KRG Open Houses

This fall, the KRG will organize open-house activities in Aupaluk, Tasiujaq and Kangiqsujuaq. KRG open houses encourage residents, and especially youth, to visit workplaces to learn about the requirements and types of training needed to work for the KRG. Open-house activities also serve to recognize KRG staff for their essential work. Since June 2014, open houses in four communities have involved close to 240 students from grades 4 to 6.

Local Recreation Training

From September 14 to 18, training was organized by the KRG Recreation Department for local recreation coordinators employed by the northern villages. Topics included information on how the work of recreation coordinators fits into the structure of the northern villages, as well as on communications and funding, and a cultural component delivered by the Unaaq Men's Association.

Participants at the recent recreation coordinator training session in Inukjuak.

KRPF Cadets and Prevention

The Kativik Regional Police Force (KRPF) implements a cadets and prevention program throughout Nunavik. Prevention objectives include educating the public to resolve problems of crime and violence, and providing programming on public safety issues. Cadet and prevention activities are funded mainly under the Ungaluk Program for safer communities and by the KRG Sustainable Employment Department.

Polisitsait *(cadets) participate in activities related to crime prevention and community safety under the supervision of KRPF officers.*

New Statistical Publication

Nunavik in Figures 2015 contains recent data for Nunavik on population, language, employment, education, income, prices, dwellings and health care, among many other fields. It is the latest project completed under the Nunivaat – Nunavik Statistics Program. Up-to-date data on the region is vital to make informed decisions in all areas of public policy.

The pocket version of *Nunavik in Figures 2015* is available at www.nunivaat.org. The full version is also available online and contains 116 tables and 61 charts, plus references to sources and methods. Changes in census data collected and prepared by Statistics Canada in recent years made it more difficult for Nunivaat to complete this project. Based on a long history of cooperation between the KRG and Université Laval, Nunivaat was established in 2005 as a permanent, public and independent statistics program on the socioeconomic situation of Nunavik. The KRG provides funding to operate Nunivaat.

Nunavik in Figures 2015 is an up-to-date socioeconomic profile of Nunavik.

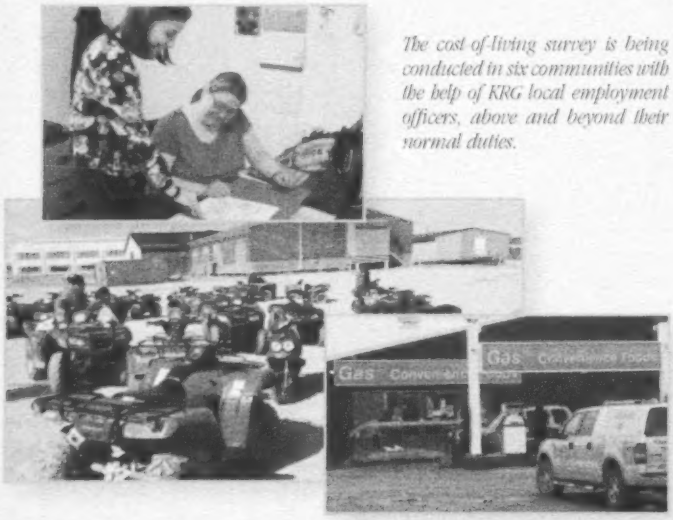
KRG Appointment

At its September sitting, the KRG Council ratified the appointment by the Executive Committee of Lydia Watt to the position of interim Director of the Sustainable Employment Department.

Cost-of-Living Study

The support and participation of Nunavimmiut are still needed to complete surveying for the study on the cost of living. Each randomly selected participating household is asked to collect receipts for two weeks and to complete a diary of daily expenses. In return, they are paid $100.

The results of the survey will provide a reliable picture of the typical expenses of Nunavik households. To date, 161 surveys have been completed in Ungava communities and 71 in Hudson communities. The study is being coordinated by Université Laval. The Makivik Corporation, the KRG and the Québec government have committed to use the results of the study to come up with effective and long-term solutions to the region's high cost of living.



The cost-of-living survey is being conducted in six communities with the help of KRG local employment officers, above and beyond their normal duties.

Police Memorial

The annual Canadian Police and Peace Officers Memorial took place on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on the last Sunday of September. The memorial ensures that those who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty are not forgotten. The name of Constable Steve Déry, an officer of the Kativik Regional Police Force who was slain while responding to a call in March 2013, appears on the honour roll. KRPF officers attended the memorial.

Upcoming Dates

- October 28, from 1 to 5 p.m. – Nomination period for candidates in upcoming municipal elections. At the municipal office in every community.
- November 4 – Municipal elections. All northern villages.
- November 23 to 27 – First sitting of the next KRG Council with newly appointed northern village representatives. Kuujjuaq.
- End of November – Regional trials for Team Nunavik–Québec (final selection). Kuujjuaq.

NUUK 2016
Arctic Winter Games

TEAM NUNAVIK QUÉBEC

KRG Staff Statistics

- Number of KRG departments, 10.
- Number of KRG staff (employees and managers), 328.
  - Percentage of KRG staff who are Inuit, 61%.
  - Percentage of KRG staff based outside of Kuujjuaq, 44%.
  - Percentage of KRG staff who are women, 47%.
- Number of KRPF officers, 86

** Data accurate as of August 2015.*

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